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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

| Request                                        | Application Number     | 10/645,856                     |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| For (DOF)                                      | Filing Date            | August 22, 2003                |
| Continued Examination (RCE)  Transmittal PE 40 | First Named Inventor   | Hisham S. ABDEL-GHAFFAR et al. |
| Address to:                                    | Art Unit               | 2617                           |
| Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450         | Examiner Name          | Bryan J. FOX                   |
| Alexandria, VA 22313-1450                      | Attorney Docket Number | 29250-000924/US                |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

| a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.  i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| ii.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| i. Amendment/Reply iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) ii Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iv. Other  2. Miscellaneous  a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period ofmonths. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required) b. Other  3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No.08-0750  i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)  ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)  iii. Other Any deficiency for a fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17  b. Check in the amount of \$ 1240.00 enclosed (\$790 for RCE and \$450 for two month ext. of time). |  |  |
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| c Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |  |
| WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| Name (Print /Type) Gary D. Yacura Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,416                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| Signature                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| t hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| Name (Print /Type) Express Mail Label No. Express Mail Label No. 01 FC:1801 799.89 NP                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |
| Signature Date Date                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.